

4 December 1981

Dear PMAP Members:

Here, for your information, is the current state of play.

As discussed at the first Panel meeting, our efforts on Soviet policy and strategy in the Middle East will focus on three key subject groups:

- Indigenous instabilities that represent opportunities for Soviet influence;
- Current Soviet plans, expectations, perceptions, and activities;
- Possible scenarios and potentials for Soviet action in the future.

[] and I shall concentrate between now and our next meeting on assembling a body of finished reports and other relevant data, preparing a substantive prospectus, and organizing additional briefings on these subjects.

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Dick Lehman is making progress on arrangements for most conveniently accessing documentary materials, although some categories of particularly sensitive documents must be held in Washington. (Unfortunately, this includes the three mentioned at our first meeting.)

Because of his overly busy schedule, [] has decided that he cannot serve as a regular Panel member. Nevertheless, we shall try to include him ad hoc when his work load permits.

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[] has accepted an invitation to join the Panel.

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A list of members and addresses is enclosed.

As we discussed, meetings in 1982 will be on 4-5 February, 6-7 May, and 7-8 October.

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[]
Chairman

Enclosure

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